

Corps of Engineers flood fight teams remain out in all Western Washington river basins and are headed

Contact: Public Affairs 206-764-3750 or the Information Line for recorded updates at 1-866-596-2635

SEATTLE - The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Seattle District, Reservoir Control Center and Emergency Operations Center remains in 24-hour operation.

Corps flood teams are currently out on the Olympic Peninsula, and in the Snohomish, Skagit, Green, Chehalis, Puyallup and Nooksack river basins. A flood team also is on the way to the Yakima River basin. A total of 64 flood fighters are deployed.

Today, the Corps of Engineers is working on flood fight efforts along the South Skagit Highway. The Corps also is supporting flood fight efforts at the Stanwood Sewage Treatment Plant levee.

The Corps is finishing up work on a temporary raise of the Bridge Road levee in Orting and a flood fight at the Alward Levee on the Carbon River. The Corps also is finishing constructing a berm across Thunder Road to protect the Quileute property.

The Corps of Engineers worked with the City of Tacoma through out the night to provide sandbag protection to the waste water treatment plant.

The Corps has provided 80,500 sandbags to local governments.

“The Corps has teams of emergency responders that assist in floods and natural disasters and they are supporting local governments as requested,” said Seattle District Emergency Management chief Paul Komoroske.

Public Law 84-99 enables the Corps to assist state and local authorities in flood fight activities and cost share in the repair of flood protection structures. The purpose is to prevent loss of life and minimize property damage associated with severe weather.

The Corps operates dams in the White/Puyallup, Green/Duwamish, Skagit and Wynoochee basins for flood risk reduction.

Currently Howard Hanson Dam on the Green River is releasing 2,700 cfs while receiving 21,000 cfs of inflow. Mud Mountain Dam on the White River (which feeds the Puyallup) is experiencing inflows of 16,000 cfs and

The Corps is providing flood control operations at the Wynoochee Dam, where inflows are 4,500 cfs with outflows at 280 cfs. On the Skagit, the Upper Baker Dam has inflows of 9,300 cfs and outflows at 4,650. Ross Dam, on the Skagit, has inflows of 4,400 cfs and outflows at 700 cfs.

For more information on the Corps, and up-to-date river forecasts, go to www.nws.usace.army.mil and click on Rivers and Reservoirs. Lake and river information is available at:
<http://www.nwd-wc.usace.army.mil/nws/hh/basins/>

Private citizens seeking sandbags should contact their local government offices.

The National Weather Service issues flood watches and warnings and should be consulted for that information.